GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1623
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2005
HIGH COURT BENCH
Mandlik Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba;Shivanna Shri M;Vallabhbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted by the Government for setting up of High Court Bench in States;

(b) whether there is a long pending demand for increasing the number of benches of the High Courts in several States;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government propose to take action regarding setting up of more benches for speedy disposal of cases; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY)

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e): In its report, the Jaswant Singh Commission suggested the broad principles and criteria to be followed while deciding the question of expediency and desirability of establishment of a Bench of a High Court away from the principal seat and the factors to be kept in view in selecting the venue of the said Bench. The report of the Commission was placed in the Parliament Library on 15.10.86 and was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha on 20.4.87 and 21.4.87 respectively, which may be referred to.

The question of opening a High Court Bench is considered by the Central Government in the light of these principles and criteria as and when a proposal is received from the State Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court.